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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating integrity of an assembly employable by application programs during runtime, comprising ~~the steps of:~~
providing an assembly with a manifest that contains a list of modules that make up the assembly; ~~and~~
providing the manifest with a hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules; ~~and~~
comparing the hash retained in the manifest with a hash of the at least one module obtained at runtime to identify whether a runtime version of the at least one module is substantially similar to a version utilized at build time of the assembly.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~the step of~~ providing the manifest with a hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules comprises ~~comprising the step of~~ providing the manifest with a hash of each module of the list of modules that constitutes the assembly.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ providing identity information in the manifest of the assembly.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, the identity information comprising publisher information and version information.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ providing a hash of the contents of the assembly at the end of the assembly.

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6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining if the contents of the assembly have been modified by determining an actual hash of the contents of the at least one module of the list of modules and comparing the actual hash with the hash of the contents of the at least one module of the list of modules residing in the manifest of the assembly.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining if the publisher of the assembly is trustworthy if the assembly has been modified.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, ~~the step of~~ determining if the publisher of the assembly is trustworthy if the assembly has been modified comprising ~~the step of~~ checking version information and publisher name information residing in the manifest of the assembly.
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ providing the manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one other assembly that the assembly depends on.
10. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs during runtime, comprising ~~the steps of~~:
- providing an assembly with a manifest that contains a list of referenced assemblies that the assembly depends on; ~~and~~
 - providing the manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies; and
 - analyzing the hash provided to the manifest and a second hash of the manifest of the at least one referenced assembly computed at runtime to determine whether changes have been made to the at least one referenced assembly between runtime and at build time of the assembly.

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11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, ~~the step of~~ providing the manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies comprises ~~comprising the steps of~~ providing the manifest with a hash of each referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~the step of~~ providing identity information in the manifest of the assembly.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, the identity information comprising publisher information and version information.
14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~the step of~~ providing a hash of the contents of the assembly at the end of the assembly.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining if the contents of the at least one referenced assembly have been modified by determining an actual hash of the contents of the at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies and comparing the actual hash with the hash of the contents of the at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies residing in the manifest of the assembly.
16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining if the publisher of the at least one referenced assembly is trustworthy if the at least one referenced assembly has been modified.
17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, ~~the step of~~ determining if the publisher of the at least one referenced assembly is trustworthy if the at least one referenced assembly has been modified comprises ~~comprising the step of~~ checking version information and publisher name information residing in a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly.

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18. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having at least one computer executable component employable by an application program at runtime comprising:

[[;]]

an assembly including a manifest that contains a list of modules that make up the assembly and a hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules, the hash is utilized to control which versions of the modules are employed in connection with the assembly at runtime.

19. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 18, the manifest including a list of at least one referenced assembly and a hash of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly.

20. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 19, the manifest including identity information and version information.

21. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 19, the assembly being a dynamically linked library.

22. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having at least one computer executable component employable by an application program at runtime comprising:

an assembly including a manifest that contains a list of at least one referenced assembly that the assembly references and a hash of the contents of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly, the hash is compared to a second hash produced at runtime to evaluate whether the at least one referenced assembly is a same version as the at least one referenced assembly utilized at build time of the assembly.

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23. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:
- a first component that provides adapted to provide a manifest for an assembly, the manifest having a list of modules making up the assembly; and
 - a second component that provides adapted to provide the manifest with a hash of at least one module of the list of modules, the hash is compared with a hash of the at least one module generated at runtime to identify changes in the content of the at least one module.
24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23, further comprising a third component adapted to compare the hash of said at least one module with an actual hash value of the at least one module.
25. (Original) The system of claim 24, the manifest including identity and version information and the third component adapted to determine if the assembly should be executed based on a review of the originator and version information, if the hash of the at least one module in the manifest and the actual hash value of the at least one module are different.
26. (Original) The system of claim 23, further comprising a binding component adapted to provide binding policy information for determining a version of an assembly that an application program will run if another assembly having the same name resides on the system.

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27. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:

a first component that provides ~~adapted to provide~~ a manifest for an assembly, the manifest having at least one referenced assembly, the at least one referenced assembly comprising a manifest; ~~and~~

a second component that provides ~~adapted to provide~~ the manifest with a hash of the manifest of the at least one referenced assembly; and

a third component that compares the hash of the at least one referenced assembly in the manifest with an actual hash value of the at least one referenced assembly to identify version changes.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, further comprising a binding component adapted to provide the third component with binding policy information.

30. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of an assembly employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:

means for relating a manifest having a list of at least one related assembly to an assembly, the at least one related assembly comprising a manifest; ~~and~~

means for providing the manifest with a hash of the manifest of the at least one related assembly; and

means for evaluating integrity of the assembly by comparing the hash value with a second hash value computed at runtime.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, the at least one related assembly being a module.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30, the at least one related assembly being a referenced assembly.

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33. (Original) The system of claim 30, further comprising means for comparing a hash value of the at least one related assembly in the manifest to an actual hash value of the at least one related assembly.
34. (Original) The system of claim 30, further comprising means for establishing a binding policy.
35. (Original) The system of claim 30, at least one of the assembly and the at least one related assembly being a dynamically linked library.